



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

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Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

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Photo courtesy of Van Buren Township

34th District Court Judge Tina Brooks Green swore in the newly elected officials at Van Buren Township on Nov. 16. From left are Trustee Sherry Frazier, Trustee Kevin Martin, Treasurer Sharry Budd, Trustee Reggie Miller, Supervisor Kevin McNamara, Trustee Donald Boynton, Jr., and Clerk Leon Wright.

Van Buren Schools closed to in-person learning until Jan. 19

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The Van Buren Public Schools are closed to in-person learning until Jan. 19. The wholesale switch to virtual learning took place Nov. 30, after Governor Gretchen Whitmer announced the three-week “pause” in in-person education and other activities.

The official word is the schools are closed until Jan. 15, but that is a Friday and Monday, the 18th is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, so schools would not be open again until Jan. 19, according to plans.

At the board of education’s regular meeting on Nov. 23, the first thing on the agenda was to suspend its board policy of requiring voting in person, since after one in-person meeting, the board had to go

back to meeting via Zoom.

“We’ve been planning this for a while now, been having conversations about this,” School Supt. Pete Kudlak told the board at its meeting.

He said the previous Sunday, Sean Garland and his team went out to the elementary school buildings to see what equipment was needed and they will be ready to hand out equipment.

Supt. Kudlak said they also have been studying redeploying the staff since now they cannot pay employees for not doing work.

“We’re finding things to be done we usually don’t have time to do,” he said, noting secretaries, too, are being redeployed.

“It’s a big difference this time,” he said.

“You have to work to be paid.”

He said the district invited the Wayne County Health Department out to walk some schools and they went through McBride and Savage and, “We picked their brains.” They gave the district a few suggestions and when they get back to school on Jan. 19 they can be used.

“We can’t wait until Jan. 19 when we open the schools for all our students,” Kudlak said. “In-person education is best for students.” He said for the at-risk students the gap is super-wide. “Those kids need that service... They need bus drivers and paraprofessionals.”

Kudlak said the order was for high schools to shut down all athletics and for all K-12 in-person learning through Dec. 8. He said the Michigan High School Athletic Association has already rescheduled playoffs, but they don’t know if they will be allowed.

He said the playoff game of Belleville High School against Detroit Cass Tech is tentatively scheduled for 4 p.m., Dec. 16,

at the BHS football field.

Human Resources Director Abdul Madyun said he has been having meetings almost daily with representatives of the bargaining units. He said there is a lot of concern about the shutdown and they want to receive checks.

Finance Director Sara Cortese said her office is switching to all remote. Also, the meals for students will be sent out on school buses to areas of the district, like they did in the spring. She said there will be four routes throughout the district, based on elementary bus routes.

She stressed that people have to register for the meals. In the spring they sent out too many meals and some had to be thrown out.

Curriculum Director Jeff Moore said they are preparing for the pause in in-person learning and making sure teachers have what they need. He said they changed what they called “conferences” to provide more flexibility.

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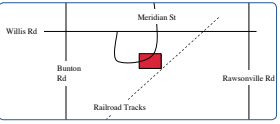
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

District Library Board meets in new library with safety precautions

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

The Belleville Area District Library Board met in person at the new library on Nov. 10, the first time it has been able to do this since the March 10 meeting, after which COVID-19 shut down public meetings.

The full board met Nov. 10 in the library's first-floor, large Cozadd meeting room. Each sat at a separate table six feet apart and each wore a face mask. Although there was space for the public, there were no members of the audience.

The 54-minute meeting was recorded and is available on YouTube.

Library Director Mary Jo Suchy told the board she really likes the new parking lot that has been topcoated and striped.

"I never thought I'd fall in love with a parking lot," she said. Fourth Street in front of the library is still under construction, but the parking lot is available from Charles Street and the alley, she said.

Suchy said the contractor who will be doing the snow removal came by earlier that day to check out the parking lot.

Board member John Juriga said the city will be clearing the alley.

Board member Joy Cichewicz, chairperson of the building committee, said, "We're getting towards the end of this," referring to all the zeros on the paperwork from the builders.

She said they are getting a quote on a special ventilation system that is important to keeping COVID-19 at bay.

Suchy said she would like to do something special for the project's site superintendent Dean Kokkales of O'Neal Construction.

"He has become part of our library family and will be greatly missed," Suchy said. "He has assured me that he will always be available for questions well into the future."

Juriga agreed that Kokkales was like a member of the staff.

Board member Mary Jane Dawson said he is very patient and, "never rolls his eyes when we ask him a question."

Suchy said they are continuing to work with architect Dan Whisler and Jennifer Michalski on the remaining donor signage, library display products, window treatments and other items. She said the AV installer was at the library two weeks earlier to refamiliarize himself with the library system and onsite training for staff is coming.

She said the staff informally learned how to use many facets of the system, but look forward to fully utilizing it.

In other business at the Nov. 10 meeting,



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztman

Members of the Belleville Area District Library Board met in person on Nov. 10, the first time they had met together since March 10. They used the large Cozadd meeting room at the library and gave themselves plenty of room.

the board:

- Heard board chairperson Sharon Peters congratulate the incumbent board members for being reelected in the Nov. 3 general election. "Our team stays together," she said and board members applauded;

- Heard Juriga say he got permission to go up on the roof earlier that day before the weather turned and Suchy and Hilary Savage went with him. He said they laid out exactly where the bee hives were going to go;

- Approved the MERS (Municipal Employees' Retirement System) Defined Contribution Addendum for retirement for full-time positions based upon their gross wages, effective Jan. 1;

- Discussed a dedication plaque that would list the architect, construction manager, and builder, plus listing the library director and members of the board in 2020. Juriga, who is on the building committee, wanted the building committee listed as well, since they put so many hours into the project. Mary Jane Dawson, also a part of the building committee, suggested instead having asterisks, the size of a 2 or 3-carat diamond, next to the names of the board members who were on the building committee;

- Heard Peters say the board intends to wait for the grand opening of the building until we won't have to wear masks and stay six-feet apart. She suggested this was

a good time to look at the changing of the library logo and Suchy said their graphic designer has been working on that. The logo will be presented to the marketing committee, made up of Alma Hughes-Grubbs and Dawson;

- Heard Suchy say the use of the Sumpter Township Media Center is pretty light and they've got to get the word out that it is open. She said they can have six people there at once; and

- Heard Peters say the numbers on the use of the new library are looking good, but the recent COVID numbers are not good. She said she hopes the board will be able to meet in person for its last meeting of the year on Dec. 8.

School district claims city is holding up construction

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

The hope to get the new, \$10.5 million Early Childhood Development Center completed by the beginning of the 2021-22 school year was dashed at the regular meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education on Nov. 23.

After an estimated completion date of Oct. 31, 2021 was announced, Board Treasurer Simone Pinter asked if there wasn't a chance to get it done by the beginning of the school year.

Rob Kakoczki of Plante Moran CRESA said they have been put behind six weeks by the city not approving the original civil design for underground water storage.

A second design was submitted and, "It's kinda been in a standstill for six weeks," Kakoczki said.

School Supt. Pete Kudlak said the project had an aggressive timeline and when they got the delay there's no way they can hit

the original opening date.

"Hopefully the city will not close down any more," said Board President Amy Pearce. "They're doing the best they can do."

"We would have to be done by the end of July to get the furniture in there," Kokoczki said. "It's in everyone's benefit to be open sooner."

Supt. Kudlak said they probably won't be able to have tuition preschool in the fall. He said they can move to the new building in January and it's hard to start a preschool then.

"This put everything back a year for tuition preschool," Kulak said. "We thought we had an agreement and it fell through. It is what it is..."

"We want these guys to do the best job possible," said Pearce. "We don't want them to feel pressure."

On Dec. 1, City of Belleville DPW Director Rick Rutherford told the *Independent*

that while the construction of the school building is under the jurisdiction of the state, the infrastructure is the responsibility of the city because after it's done, the city will have to maintain it.

He said the original plans were submitted to the city with a note: "Please expedite the review." Rutherford said that meant the city looked at it more carefully. The city engineer, Hennessey, reviewed it and found things that didn't comply with state and national standards and returned it for changes.

"It's the responsibility of their engineer to make sure everything is in compliance," Rutherford said. He said the water main design has to be submitted to EGLE (the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes & Energy) and the water retention plans to Wayne County.

"There are certain standards," Rutherford said. "We can't throw caution to the winds."

(continued on page 10)

OPINIONS

Editorial

Heading into the holiday season with heavy hearts

On Friday, the WinterFest fireworks will go off on the Denton Road bridge and will reflect off Belleville Lake. Thank you to the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce for making it happen and all the sponsors for that event, along with the members of the local Michigan Fireworks Club who are doing all the work.

There is a mention that Santa may be out and around on Friday. Santa is coming to the museum a couple of Saturdays this month, courtesy of the Belleville Central Business Community.

But, that's about it for Christmas events in Belleville. The DDA, CBC, and chamber are urging everyone to shop local and some will. Others, afraid of crowds that may be carrying COVID, are shopping online. You can see those Amazon, FedEx, UPS, and postal trucks everywhere.

And, the restaurants and bars are struggling because their inside service has been cut off by state edict. Some are serving outdoors but the snow finally came and outside dining is difficult. Carryouts are helping some restaurants survive, but it's not enough.

Some may never be able to reopen again. How sad is that? We consider the waitstaff and cooks and others. It cuts a wide swath. Their holidays are grim.

We can celebrate Christmas and Hanukkah and other holidays in our homes, but still, our hearts are heavy.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

On the agenda for Tuesday night's Van Buren Township meeting was a proposal to name Dave McNally as fire chief of VBT following the Jan. 4 retirement of Amy Brow.

His father and grandfather, both fire chiefs in their time, would be so proud of him. I know that I appreciate Dave being so approachable and willing to give information on fires. I'm sure he will be promoted and we congratulate him heartily.

Helen Louise Fincher at Bladez hair salon is known for tending to the needs of those living on the streets of Detroit. She regularly brings them food and clothing and other needs in memory of her father.

Recently, she said her bus broke down on a freeway in Detroit and she waited many hours for AAA to come and when it didn't she tried to drive the bus and, she said, that blew the engine.

She now is taking things to Detroit in her car, but she can't get enough items in the car. She said she has asked the school district to sell her an old bus at little cost or to give one to her. She is looking this way and that for help.

If anyone has an idea, her salon is at 601 E. Huron River Dr. in the City of Belleville, phone 697-5600.

There are 11 Larceny from Auto reports in last week's Van Buren Township Police Department dispatch log, published on page 14 of today's paper. That should encourage us all to make sure our cars are locked and not to leave any enticing objects visible in the vehicle.

...By Rosemary K. Otzman



I asked Mike Kole of the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce if the chamber's building on Main Street, that is up for sale or lease, will be the site of a marijuana shop since city voters approved having such places in the city. He said it wouldn't be a marijuana shop, at the vote of the chamber board. Board members don't want that now and plan to put a stipulation in the deed to make sure that doesn't happen in the future.

I've been advised that out-of-state businessmen are offering cash for acreage in Sumpter Township and there is reason to believe they have an interest in growing marijuana. They obviously hope the township board will decide to opt into the project, after all.

On Monday, around 8 a.m., we were on our way back from an early doctor's visit at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital and had to get over a bit on the I-94 freeway to make way for workers picking up their signs and barrels and hauling them away. They are done for the season, I guess.

We have been going back and forth to St. Joe for weeks, since Jim fell out of the tree and got all his injuries, so much of the journey was figuring out how to get there and back around all the construction.

When traffic is put into one lane on I-94 it is not a pretty picture.

As to Jim's injuries, he is getting better

every day. On Monday, the doctor for his pelvis break said it has healed enough for him not to have to come back for checkups. The body is doing its work.

That's one of Jim's four doctors that we won't have to visit again. We still have the one for the breaks in his arm (which is now out of the cast and in a brace), one for his broken back, and his regular doctor for the medications involved.

Everything is healing nicely except the lower back which was getting arthritic before he fell. Thank you to all for your prayers and cards and inquiries about Jim's injuries. He is a big part of our newspaper and it is nice to have him back, though it's mostly part time these days.

Last week when we were delivering *Independents* to our various stops, a deer ran across our pathway as we got to the Liquor Wagon on Willis Road, west of Sumpter Road. It was dark out (we deliver early) and the big deer dashed out right in front of us and was gone before we knew what was happening. No collision, I'm happy to say. Bob Mytych was driving. Our hearts did flutter a bit. I've heard reports of a lot of deer accidents on the police scanner at home and it's not unusual in the rural area.



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Letters

I'm paying for city water I didn't use

To the City of Belleville:

I am including a check for \$210 for unpaid water for 6 – 7 – 8 – 9 – 10 – 11, 2020. January, February, March, April, May, 2020 were paid. I had to hire a company to prove I had no leak, where I would be responsible -- \$90.

A handman was hired to show the same from June 20 to July 27, \$100, and the needle in the meter did not move. I thought all this would be clear when I hired Mr. John Day, but apparently city hall is too busy or somebody lacks in their work.

All this could have been solved in June. Now, who is going to pay Mr. Day? I have made at least 10 calls to the city in November. None of the calls have been answered!

By the way, I was closed February, March, April, May, June and half of July. No water had been used. Actually, the water was shut off!

I also was promised a receipt for my taxes paid in July. I still did not receive it as of today, Nov. 12, 2020.

With all due respect,
Enrica Hensley
Enrica Golden Needle
436 Main St., Belleville

About the eagle nest

To the editor:

I'm writing in regards to the bald eagles' nest and tree article that appeared in the Extra Things I Know, page 4 of the Nov. 26, 2020 issue of the *Belleville-Area Independent*.

I have been following this nest for three years. When I read the "the entire tree was taken down," I was surprised, so I drove over to take a look. With much relief, I found the nest tree still standing. The nest, however, is no longer there.

The last time I saw the nest (with eagles in it) was on June 28. On Oct. 24, I went to check on the nest, and to see if the eagles were in the area. No eagles and no nest.

On July 20, a bad storm came through, and I suspect the wind took down the nest. I'm not absolutely sure this is what happened, but it's the most logical explanation. Storms have taken down eagle's nests and trees all over the country, but bald eagles are resilient. They have a territory, and they will construct a new nest somewhere in that territory. It may not be in the same tree, but they will build again. Bald eagles only use their nest for rearing young. After successful fledging and disbursement of juvenile eagles, bald eagles are not typically seen in their nests.

I am attaching pictures for reference. The first picture is from June 28, 2020. A parent, and the hard-to-see fledgling in the back, flew to the nest together. The second picture is from Oct. 24, 2020. Just the tree. The last picture is from Nov. 27, 2020. I cropped the picture so you can see the sticks laying across the V-branch in the middle of the picture. I'm not sure if this is what's left of the old nest, or if it's the beginnings of a new one.

I'm sure the email you received was from someone concerned for the eagles, however, the "entire tree" is still standing and I do not suspect foul play. She is correct, there are stiff penalties for violating the Bald and Golden Eagle Act. One year in prison and a \$100,000 fine for a first offense.

Angela Cole
Van Buren Township resident

Thank you to all voters who supported me

To the residents of Van Buren Township:

I am extremely thankful to everyone who has continued to support me for another term of office as your Van Buren Township Treasurer. This is a position that I am very proud to serve in. My roots are deep in this community and I pledge that I will continue to go forward to meet each and every challenge that arises. I cherish that you have placed your trust in me to be a good steward for Van Buren Township.

I will continue to stay in touch with citizens and business owners to safeguard the needs and desires of our community. I am humbled by your affirmation to continue to serve you. May you and your family have a blessed and safe holiday season.

Warmest regards,
Sharry Budd, Treasurer
Van Buren Charter Township

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Thank you to 'Geri' for paying for my flowers

To the editor:

I want to publicly thank the woman who paid for the yellow roses for my husband's grave. It all happened on Saturday, Nov. 28.

I went to Garden Fantasy on Main in downtown Belleville to get some yellow roses to put on his grave in Hillside Cemetery. It would have been our 61st wedding anniversary, since we were married in 1959. He died three years ago.

A lady was behind me in line at the flower shop and she just had a pot of white flowers to pay for, so I told her to go ahead of me since I was in no hurry. She said she would be taking care of three grandchildren and needed to get home and her mother was bringing over a couple more. She said this was their time with the grandkids and they regularly did it on weekends.

When I was picking up my flowers, I learned she had paid for my roses. I was overwhelmed and thanked her, then asked her name. When she said her name was "Geri," I just started bawling. My husband's name was Jerry.

When I got out to the car, I just sat there and cried. It so touched my heart.

Thank you, Geri, for the flowers for Jerry.

Sharon Zander
Sumpter Township

More Letters

Thanks to all my Sumpter supporters

To the editor:

I'd like to thank the residents of Sumpter Township, Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club, and former Treasurer Ken Bednark and, most of all, candidate for supervisor Nelson Po, and all other supporters who put me into top position as your next candidate for trustee in each precinct in the primary. It was unbelievable! Thank you very much! I am truly honored!

History records high numbers of voters turning out for change. After 43 years of the same system, same way of doing business, Sumpter residents spoke up with their votes LOUD and CLEAR!

Residents were tired of the administration's self-serving ways. They were tired of the board trustees who allowed this type of big, unnecessary spending and big raises to short-term contractual workers. Tired of years of nothing to show for anything in the community.

The people of Sumpter voted for change! The General Election that was finalized was very interesting: Bottom incumbent trustees hanging on by three thin strings in the wind, climbing up and passing both top candidates. Unbelievable. I had completely vanished off the planet!

For sure, numbers don't lie! People do! Could this be another déjà vu? I must be dreaming, huh? I believe I've been here before in 2018. I remember John Morgan's words when our friendship deteriorated. I was not his popular girl anymore when running for election. I will never forget him telling me, "So you think you can win?" I said, yes of course, no doubt. He chuckled!

Now I know just what he meant! Same business as usual. I was told two weeks before going into the General Election that I was guaranteed to lose. I said, no way!

Now let me go back to the Primary election. I remember how well that played. Candidate for supervisor Nelson Po paid for a recount with the Wayne County Board of Canvassers. I was asked to be a challenger and the experience was very interesting. I saw how absentee ballots play a BIG ROLE and are the POWER and CONTROL on who wins or who loses.

A spoiled ballot is caused by reasoning if it's torn, mechanical malfunction, human mistake, or deliberately done. There were numerous amounts of spoiled ballots for candidate for supervisor Nelson Po. As a challenger, I witnessed them reject ballots that never made it to the ballot box.

Recounts are a waste of time and money! It's just a Show and Tell. In other words, you can't see HOW or WHO spoiled the ballots.

Primary Elections reminded me when you buy or lease your first home. You prime the walls

for unwanted marks before you paint. You don't need any unwanted, uninspected spots popping up on the final paint job of your choice.

On Nov. 10, the last board meeting remained with the same old dirty tricks! The board put on the agenda a plan to hire Deputy Supervisor Karen Armatis as a part-time employee at \$27 an hour. WOW!

After the residents came out breaking history for change after 43 years, the players didn't give a damn! They were willing to take a chance at any risk to keep the DYNASTY intact -- with

two supervisors which would be double-trouble.

They ousted me and gave one incumbent my highest score and another my seat, making sure they control and hinder the board. The new administration now has no POWER!

All the steps to keep the same board members in power is a joke to me and to the community that voted them out! I look up at the board and I see changes: Sheena Barnes turned into a Caucasian MAN! In my theory, I truly believe that Nelson Po was a winner for supervisor in

(continued on page 8)

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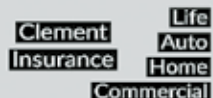


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Obituaries



Bob Mullins, Sr.

BOB MULLINS, SR.

(December 21, 1953 – November 20, 2020)
Bob Mullins, Sr. passed away November 20, 2020 at the age of 66.

He was the loving father of April (Mike) Richmond and Bob Jr. "BJ" (Kelly) Mullins; devoted grandfather of Zac (Maddy) Richmond and William Confere; cherished husband of Shirley and step-father of Donnie (Tina) Honeycutt and Lucy (Shawn) Stamp; dear brother of Scott (Shannon) and Steve (Ann) and uncle to numerous nieces and nephews. He also leaves his beloved fur baby, Roxy.

Bobby Gene was born on December 21, 1953 in Clintwood, Virginia to William and Bonnie Mullins. The second born of six, he moved to Michigan in the late '60s with his family. Bob attended Belleville High School and joined the United States Army, serving his country for four years. He returned to Michigan, working as a skilled machinist for many years before discovering his true passion for truck driving. Bob loved to cook and BBQ; he was especially famous for his ribs. He was very social and funny, always wanting to make his friends and loved ones laugh and enjoy themselves. Bob "told it like it is" but was kind and generous, always ready to help others however he could. When Bob hosted, you knew all were welcome to join in on the food and good times. His charisma and unselfish love will be missed by his beloved family and friends.

A Private Memorial Service was held. Bob will be laid to rest in Clintwood, Virginia this Spring.

JEANNE AMY SMUDA

(March 8, 1930 – November 23, 2020)
Mrs. Jeanne Amy Smuda, predeceased by her eldest son Gary Smuda, passed away on November 23, 2020 after a brief illness.

A past president of the Belleville Lions Club, Jeanne took pride in the work she did there to pair vision-impaired people with leader dogs. Jeanne enjoyed dancing with her late husband Joseph Smuda and in 1996, the pair won a jitterbug dancing competition at a Lions Club district 11-A-1 event. She also loved to sing and was a founding member of the Belleville Community Chorus.

Jean was an avid fan of classic cinema and became a voracious reader of mystery novels in her later years.

She is survived by three children, Gloria Kolb, Gail Bugosh and Joe Smuda. Jeanne is also survived by her son-in-law, Phillip Bugosh and five grandchildren.

At Jeanne's request, there will be no memorial service. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Belleville Community Chorus, PO Box 213, Belleville, MI 48112.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Higgeson & Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main St., Belleville, MI (734) 697-9400.



Stella M. Przybylski

STELLA M. PRZYBYLSKI

(August 23, 1930 – November 22, 2020)
Stella M. Przybylski, 90, of Detroit, MI, passed away on Sunday November 22, 2020 in Belleville, MI.

Funeral Mass will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday December 5, 2020 at St. Francis D'Assisi Church, 4500 Wesson Avenue, Detroit, MI, 48210. Visitation with family begins at 10:30 a.m.

Stella was born on August 23, 1930 in Detroit to Stefan and Frances. She attended St. Francis and St. Casimir schools in Detroit. Stella worked as a Supervisor at J.L. Hudson's in downtown Detroit for a number of years. She married John on February 8, 1958 in Detroit. Stella enjoyed 62 wonderful years of marriage with John. She successfully raised six children and loved to bake.

Stella is preceded in death by her parents Stefan and Frances, brothers Roman and Rev. Francis. Stella is survived by her husband John (Jim) Przybylski; children Joseph (Ida Mae), George (Vickie), Thomas (Sylvia), Denise (Robert), Marie (the late Kenneth), Timothy; brother Richard, 13 grandchildren; more than a dozen great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews; and her loving dogs Sparky and Gilligan.

Memorials may be given to the Capuchins, 1820 Mount Elliott St., Detroit, MI 48207 or Arbor Hospice, 2366 Oak Valley Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

The family of Stella wishes to extend our sincere thanks to Arbor Hospice for their wonderful care.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Higgeson & Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main St., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-9400.

COVID-19 death total in 48111 stays at 34, positive tests growing

The number of people who have died from COVID-19 in the 48111 zip code area climbed by one to 34 on Nov. 17 and remained at 34 through Monday.

The positive tests for COVID-19 in 48111 were 1,288 on Monday, Nov. 30, up from 1,143 the previous Monday, Nov. 23.

On Monday, Nov. 30, the separate numbers released by the Wayne County Health Department for the tri-community were: Van Buren Township, 848 positive cases, 19 deaths; City of Belleville, 227 positive cases, 14 deaths; and Sumpter Township 213 positive cases, 1 death.

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, Dec. 7 – Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 8 – Van Buren Township Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library, 7:30 p.m., new library
- Wednesday, Dec. 9 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Dec. 10 – Keystone Academy remote school board meeting, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission at 7 p.m.

Obituaries



Daniel C. Welt

DANIEL C. WELT

(October 11, 1953 – November 27, 2020)

Daniel C. Welt, age 67, life-long Belleville area resident, passed away Friday, November 27, 2020 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, MI, due to COVID-19. He was born October 11, 1953 in Ypsilanti, MI, son of Everett Cooke & Shirley Elizabeth (Poet) Welt. Dan retired from Ford Motor Company Dearborn plant after 30 years of loyal service. He enjoyed tinkering in his garage and working in his yard. He also enjoyed going to casinos, especially in Las Vegas. He was an expert haggler, always looking for the best deal. An avid reader, Dan also enjoyed fishing and camping with his grandsons and bragging about his granddaughter. His favorite hobby was being a Papa.

Mr. Welt is survived by his devoted wife of 47 years Janice A. (Lauth) Welt; son Derek (Jamie) Welt of Johnston, Iowa; daughter Elizabeth (Matthew) Johnson of Saline, MI; three grandchildren: Destiny Welt, Nolan and Emmett Johnson; brother Michael Welt of Grayling, MI; siblings-in-law: Pamela Mendis, Paul (Ruth) Lauth, Mark (Donna) Lauth, Cecilia (Chuck) Birbeck, Sharon (Mark) Innes; life-long friends Jerry and Jenny Lowhorn; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family and friends. Dan was preceded in death by his parents, also a sister Susan Hamrick.

Visitation will be 2-7 PM Friday, December 4, 2020 and 10-11 AM Saturday, December 5, 2020 with an 11:00 AM Funeral at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, face coverings are required inside the building and there is a limit of 25 people at one time. Dan's funeral will be live-streamed on the funeral home Facebook page for everyone to watch. A Private Interment will be in Hillside Cemetery, Belleville, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to: Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue, Animal Rescue League of Iowa, or Purple Heart, and would be appreciated.

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Johnny Joseph Cymes

JOHNNY JOSEPH CYMES

(January 20, 1940 – November 27, 2020)

Johnny Joseph Cymes of Van Buren Township, age 80, passed away, Friday, November 27, 2020.

John is the beloved father of Drina (Steve) Harris, of Belleville; loving companion of Mary Cymes for over 60 years. John was preceded in death by his son, Timothy Cymes; his companion Mary Cymes; brother Richard (Sharon, survives) Cymes; and parents, Mary and Joseph Cymes.

John was a cherished grandfather of Melissa (Gary) Herndon, of Louisiana, Mary (Charlie Sr.) Shopshear, of Gaylord, MI, Jonathon (Alina) Brooks, of Ann Arbor, MI, and Loki Harris (Desiree Hahn), of Hamtramck, MI. John was the dear great-grandfather of Corey Shopshear, Hussein Baiz, Mariam Baiz, Lilly Shopshear, Sabrina Baiz, Lucas Brooks, Charlie Shopshear Jr., and Lucy Herndon. John is also survived by his brother, Robert (Onda) Cymes; numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, and close friends Ray and Vince; and life-long cousin and friend, Jimmy (Diane) Miazga.

John was a life-long Belleville area resident. He was an extremely skilled carpenter. He was hardworking and took pride in his work. John was a talented gardener and loved to be outside barbecuing something delicious.

John and his partner Mary had a love story that was adventurous and lasted more than half of a century.

John was deeply loved, and he will be deeply missed.

A special thank-you goes out to all of the caring staff at Four Seasons Nursing Facility for taking such good care of John.

Cremation rites have been accorded by David C. Brown Funeral Home of Belleville, MI. Due to the current Covid-19 restrictions, a memorial will be held at a later date.

www.davidcbrownfh.com

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More Letters

(continued from page 6)

the Primary and I believe that candidate Sherry Olds was a winner for clerk and Sheena Barnes was the top winner for trustee.

In spite of all of this, I am truly proud of the citizens of Sumpter Township who supported a change – who came out in record, history-breaking numbers for change and the people listened to all the letters that were published. Also, I'd like to thank Bobby Rosela, the comic artist, for expressing the needs of the people. Thank you very much.

And, to our new supervisor for Sumpter Township, Tim Bowman, we the people support you as our supervisor! Congratulations. We love you and support you for changes.

DRAIN THE SWAMP!

Sheena Barnes
Sumpter Township

WinterFest fireworks set for 7:30 p.m. Friday

The WinterFest fireworks will begin at 7:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 4, from the Denton Road Bridge over Belleville Lake.

The show, presented by the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce, has been expanded to 22 minutes. Also, Santa may make an appearance for the children.

The show can be seen from many places, including High Street, Horizon Park, Denton Road, and Fourth Street Square. Mike Kohl, executive director of the Chamber, said social distancing will be easily possible, masks should be worn, and the wide area should offer viewers the safety they need to feel comfortable.

The fireworks are being put on by the local Michigan Fireworks Club.

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ORPHAN OF THE WEEK SAMANTHA



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Samantha is a high energy girl looking for a family that will give her lots of pets, play, walks and treats! She seems to love everyone and does her happy dance to show you how excited she is to see you. **Samantha** walks well with our volunteers especially once she gets into the groove of things. She loves to learn and is very toy and food motivated so training will be a breeze if you put the work into it. **Samantha** gets excited when she sees other dogs and is still learning to socialize. We recommend slow and calm introductions when meeting other dogs. Her happy smile is contagious and will be the best gift under the tree this holiday. If you would like to meet **Samantha** call **FMAR** at **734-461-9458** to schedule an appointment or visit our website fmar1.org for more information. She is already micro-chipped, spayed, heartworm negative and up to date on vaccines.

More Letters

Please, reconsider your policy on Wall of Honor

To: BHS Awards Wall Personnel

Please rethink your policy concerning who should be included on you Wall of Honor. I don't know the circumstances surrounding Greg Allen Barker. I don't know why he left school before graduating. I do know that he gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country. He deserves to be honored! Could not the wall read, "BHS Students..."? Please do not ostracize one of our own. Please reconsider your policy.

Joy Dubin

Van Buren Township

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School building

(continued from page 3)

Rutherford said the engineering review was delayed further by being a day short last week because of the holiday, but the city engineer just told him he expected to have the revised plan reviewed by the end of the week.

In further discussion at the school board meeting concerning the building, Pearce asked if money left over from the Early Childhood Development Center construction can be used for other things. “Can we buy more chairs?” she asked.

“We built the building,” Kudlak said, referring to what some of the bond funds were for. He said they could improve the playground and have a better quality furniture, if there is extra money to spend.

“It would be better to keep it in the building,” Kudlak said of the expenditures. “When everything in the bond is done, we could do more things,” he said.

Also at the meeting the board approved Plante Moran’s Bid Packet #2 (Group A) as recommended for a total cost of \$5,851,622, including a \$458,422 contingency, with all bids and alternates in or under budget.

The price includes a brick alternate, classroom canopies alternate and exterior classroom window seats/benches alternate.

A voluntary alternate came from Professional Thermal Systems, low bidder for plumbing and mechanical. It offered a voluntary deduct alternate of \$32,000 if awarded both bid categories and this was accepted.

Professional Thermal Systems’ accepted bid was \$675,000 for plumbing and \$872,000 for mechanical.

Other contractors awarded bids were: Simone Construction Services, \$642,500 for structural concrete and slabs; Schiffer Mason Contractors, Inc., \$782,900, for masonry; Zak Welding and Custom Work, LLC, \$221,600 for structural and misc. steel; The Spieker Company, \$865,000 for wood framing; Clark Contracting Services, \$429,200 for carpentry and general trades; Preferred Glass, Inc., \$373,000 for aluminum, glass and glazing; and Douglas Electric Company, \$532,000 for electrical.

At the next school board meeting, Plante Moran will present the remaining contracts – Group B – for \$3,249,789 and a guaranteed maximum price for the building from Granger Construction -- \$10,548,848.

The amount includes \$192,200 for Trade Contractor General Conditions, which covers temporary heat to keep the ground thawed so they can keep going in the

winter, along with toilets and a dumpster.

It also includes \$158,355 for Davis Street repaving, an estimated Civil Design Changes Allowance of \$190,000 for city approval of the underground drainage, and \$1,072,373 to Granger Construction Manager for staffing, fees, bonds and insurance.

At the Nov. 23 meeting, the board also:

- Approved the resignation of Belleville High School teacher Jonathan Mayers as of Nov. 29 after less than a year of service;

- Approved the resignation of Brittany Bonds from the Transportation Department as of Oct. 15 after one year of service;

- Approved the employment of Michael Dotson as a custodian with a starting date of Nov. 9; and

- Went into closed-door session for a periodic personnel evaluation of Supt. Kudlak and then adjourned without taking action.

City of Belleville to judge holiday lights on Sunday, Dec. 6

Residents of the City of Belleville are asked to keep their holiday lights burning from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 7.

That’s when members of the Belleville City Council will be out judging this year’s holiday lights.

Awards will be given out for:

- Victoria Commons
- Harbour Pointe
- Belleville Businesses
- Mobile Home Parks
- Remainder of Belleville

First-place awards will be announced at an upcoming city council meeting.

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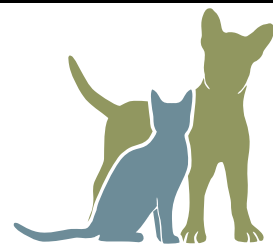
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VBT Parks & Rec hosts Holiday Virtual Photo Challenge

The holidays are here and the Van Buren Township Parks and Recreation Department wants to see your holiday cheer.

For just three weeks, Parks and Rec will be hosting a Holiday Virtual Photo Challenge beginning the week of Monday, Nov. 30 until Friday, Dec. 18.

Anyone can submit their holiday photos, as long as the images are taken in the city of Belleville, Van Buren Township or Sumpter Township. Each week the winning photo will be published in the *Belleville-Area Independent*, on the Parks & Rec. Facebook page, and on the township website. You do not have to be a professional photographer to submit your photos. Cell phone photos will be accepted and are encouraged.

Participants are asked to upload their

photos on the VBT's Parks & Rec. Holidays Photo Challenge Facebook event at <https://fb.me/e/gziK9z9iQ> or email photos to communications@vanburen-mi.org. You must include your name, email, and the location of where the photo was taken to be considered for a winning entry.

This is a special opportunity to showcase your family traditions, holiday lights, family portraits, or even the weather. A winner will be chosen each week but announced the following week due to judging. For example, the winner from the week of Nov. 30 will be announced the week of Dec. 7. Judging will be done by members from the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority.

Looking for some photo ideas?

- Capture your family traditions, like making hot cocoa or putting up decorations.

- Holidays lights bring smiles to everyone. Spotlight your colorful décor.

- The changing of the seasons can bring out the best or worst of Mother Nature. Share a snowy landscape or you all bundled up shoveling those mountains of snow.

- Sometimes it's easier to spot wildlife or their tracks in the winter. Just remember to stay safe and keep your distance to not disrupt their environments.

Minimum Criteria:

- Photos must be taken in Van Buren Township, Sumpter Township, or the City of Belleville.

- Photographs must be taken by you and you must have the rights to the photo.

- The photo must include your name, email, and the location of the photo.

By submitting your photo to Van Buren Township Parks and Recreation Photo Challenge you understand that any pictures

taken of you or your family may be used for future promotion, or maybe displayed online and could be published in the *Belleville-Area Independent*.

For more information email communications@vanburen-mi.org, call Alysha Albrecht at (734) 740-0547 or visit vanburen-mi.org.



Dec. 1 – Rochelle McArthur

Dec. 3 – Michael Koppy

Dec. 4 – Amber Brendtke, Jeff Goff

Dec. 5 – Justin Juriga

Dec. 6 – Tara Hjeltness

Dec. 7 – Cheryl Parent, Gloria Gregory Plummer, Karin LaMothe, Peggy Breen

Dec. 8 – Mary Kowal, Tom Smith, Khloe Williams

Dec. 9 – Kathleen Springer, Drusilla Allen, Robert McKenna

Do you have a birthday soon? Does someone you know have a birthday? Let us know and we will print the name as soon as possible. For more information, call (734) 699-9020.

Christopher Lunsford accepted into special program at Albion

Belleville High School graduate Christopher Lunsford is a new member of Albion College's Lisa and James Wilson Institute for Medicine.

The Wilson Institute supports and prepares students to be exemplary and altruistic physicians, dentists, veterinarians, and other healthcare professionals.

Lunsford, a resident of Van Buren Township, is a first-year student at Albion College.



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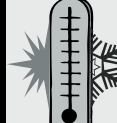
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WANTED – SMALL CONTAINERS of shampoo, toothpaste, etc. to take to homeless in Detroit. Drop off at Bladez’s 601 E. Huron River Dr. (734) 697-5600

WANTED: Baseball cards or any kind of trading cards. 1970s-prior or any year in unopened packs/boxes. (734) 697-5482

WANTED. USED NORDICTRACK TREADMILL. Please call Pierre (734) 735-0181. (I’m getting too darn fat!)

CASH PAID FOR Sports Cards and Comic Books. 50s, 60s, 70s. Private collector can come to you when it is safe to do so. (734) 697-3546.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION
U-Lock-It Self Storage LLC
6130 Rawsonville Rd.,
Belleville, MI 48111
(734)-482-1502

Notice is hereby given that on 12/17/20 at 12:00 P.M. thru 12/23/20 at 12:00 P.M. contents of the following storage unit(s) will be sold online at:

Bid13.com

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Unit(s) may or may not include the following: household items, recreational items, appliances, furniture, seasonal decorations, and tools.
Publish: Dec. 3, 2020; Dec. 10, 2020

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FOOD GRADE BARRELS – Various sizes & styles. Inventory & pictures at www.mattsbarrels.com Call/text (734) 474-5981. Located in Willis. 01/14

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2005 HONDA CIVIC EX. Loaded, 4-door, auto, stereo cassette, power sunroof & windows, good tires, new brakes. 37 miles/gal, 194K miles. Excellent condition. \$3,000. (734) 635-7642

2007 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN. 144K miles. Perfect interior. New brakes, battery & converter. Drives but has rod knock. \$800. For repair or parts. (313) 460-3270

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The Belleville Independent is a drop off location for the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program. Bring in your new, unwrapped toy to our office by 12 Noon on December 11 at: 152 Main St., Suite 9, Belleville, MI
We are located in the Professional Building (the old movie theater building) across from Zax Auto Wash.

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Notice to Advertisers:

The Belleville-Area Independent will not be liable for failure to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you must notify us within five days of publication or on the date of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so there is time to correct subsequent publications. The Independent’s liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect advertisement or republication of the corrected advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the Independent be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

Give the gift that will keep on giving for a whole year!

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Or, give us a call at (734) 699-9020 (Credit or Debit cards only)

Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



Country Christmas this year at St. Paul Lutheran Church on Craig Street in New Boston is coming on Saturday, Dec. 19, from noon to 2 p.m., where Santa will greet families from their vehicles during Drive-By Meet Country Claus. Children can also leave letters for Santa and the first 150 children will receive a gift bag. The event also will collect donations of hats, gloves, scarves, and socks for those in need in the community.

The Huron Township Historical Commission is sponsoring a drive-through New Boston this Sunday, from 5 to 7 p.m. featuring a decorated downtown, festive music, and a giftbag from Santa, who will be located in front of their museum on Huron River Drive. The event is free.

Lonnie Weisenstein and family (Lonnie's Auto Repair) in Belleville adopted three families for Thanksgiving and now they want to adopt three more families this Christmas. Know of someone on hard times and in need? Have them call the

business during regular hours at (734) 325-7065. They're open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Belleville Central Business Community will be presenting Photos with Santa on Saturdays, Dec. 12 and Dec. 19, from noon until 4 p.m. both days at the Belleville Area Museum. Social distancing and masks are required and there will be plenty of volunteers to keep everyone safe. There will be a check-in system in place when you arrive. The event and photos are free but donations will be accepted. Photos for special needs' children and adults will take place 11:30 a.m. to noon both days. The event is sponsored by Tucker Insurance, Genisys Credit Union, DTE Energy, and Belleville Downtown on the Lake. See their ad in today's paper.

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue has been operating the best they can to provide adoptions of dogs and cats by appointment only and on weekends during this pandemic. Meanwhile, the no-kill shelter in Sumpter is in need of items and services to operate on a daily basis. If you click on their Donate button, you can download their Non-Profit Wish List and perhaps support them by grabbing a thing or two the next time you're shopping. Items like cat litter and dog and cat wet and dry food is always welcomed, but there's other items on the list, too, like paper towels, printer paper, power tools, and even gas cards and postage stamps. Volunteer opportunities are plentiful, from dog walkers to clean-up helpers. Monetary donations and even corporate sponsorships can also help out with utilities, etc. Visit their website and see a featured pet each week in the Independent. Visit their new website at www.friendsofmichigan.org. Call (734) 461-9458.

Special thanks to Janet Millard and the Belleville Central Business Community for allowing me to illustrate their annual coloring book again this year. It's so much fun. Children, be sure to get one along with your free photo and stocking when you visit Santa at the museum on Dec. 12 and 19. See their ad in today's paper for details. Johnston Lithograph does the printing every year and the shipment was even delivered by the president of the company. That's what you get sometimes when you support local businesses. Thanks, CBC.

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych at (734) 699-9020. There is no cost to be in this column.

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Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice



VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

DECEMBER BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

The BOARD OF REVIEW of the Charter Township of Van Buren will meet at the Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting will be:

- 1) To correct clerical errors or mutual mistakes of fact;
- 2) Homestead exemption status; and
- 3) Poverty exemptions.

Any property owner who believes they qualify should call Van Buren Township Assessing Department at 734.699.8946 prior to December 15, 2020.

Leon Wright
Van Buren Charter Township

Post: November 19, 2020
Publish: December 03, 2020
December 10, 2020

TOYS FOR TOTS

The Belleville Independent is a drop off location for the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program. Bring in your new, unwrapped toy to our office by 12 Noon on December 11 at: 152 Main St., Suite 9, Belleville, MI
We are located in the Professional Building (the old movie theater building) across from Zax Auto Wash.

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 184 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police for last week, including the following.

Sunday, Nov. 22:

0006 – noise complaint, Birch Dr.
0004 – disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0052 – indecent exposure, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0113 – disorderly, Birch Dr./Maple Dr.
0148 – suspicious person/vehicle, Tyler Rd.
0241 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
1048 – suicidal person, Belleville Rd.
1200 – vehicle lock out, N. Bellridge Dr.
1213 – traffic offense, Sheldon Rd./Van Born Rd.
1237 – domestic, Oak Blvd.
1317 – animal complaint, Westlake Cir.
1345 – traffic offense, Rawsonville Rd.
1547 – domestic, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1621 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Ecorse Rd.

1744 – malicious destruction of property, Maple
1803 – suspicious person/vehicle, Beck Rd.
1830 – noise complaint, Denton Rd.
2042 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2059 – suspicious person/vehicle, Hardwood Dr.
2146 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
2318 – noise complaint, Denton Rd.
2329 – domestic, Denton Rd.

Monday, Nov. 23:

0307 – assist citizen, Tyler Rd.
0552 – traffic offense, Wildbrook Dr.
0729 – intrusion alarm, Tyler Rd.
0754 – intrusion alarm, Truman
0829 – animal complaint, Sadie Ln.
0923 – larceny from auto, Westlake Cir.
0927 – 911 welfare check, Belleville Rd.
0946 – larceny from auto, Westlake Cir.
1000 – larceny from auto, Westlake Cir.
1045 – larceny from auto, Westlake Cir.
1118 – animal complaint, Ayres Ave.
1145 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1210 – property damage accident, Denton Cemetery
1210 – welfare check, Tyler Rd./Morton Taylor
1251 – larceny from auto, Amanda Dr.
1324 – domestic, Ormond Dr.
1423 – threat, Belleville Rd.
1459 – property damage accident, Tyler/Belleville
1506 – assist other dept., Wildbrook Dr.
1609 – mental subject, Elwell Rd.
1606 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
1630 – neighbor trouble, Arcadia
1644 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1656 – breaking & entering, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1657 – traffic offense, Arthur St./McBride Ave.
1806 – suspicious person/vehicle, Andover Dr.
1834 – larceny from auto, Westlake Cir.
1921 – intrusion alarm, Country Walk Blvd.
2048 – threat, Parkwood Dr.
2121 – 911 welfare check, Haggerty Rd./Van Born
2148 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.

2325 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.

Tuesday, Nov. 24:

0248 – intrusion alarm, Bemis Rd.
0623 – mental subject, N. Woodbury Dr.
0809 – animal complaint, Belleville/Quirk
1000 – juvenile complaint, McBride
1104 – animal complaint, Westlake
1115 – juvenile complaint, McBride St.
1214 – intrusion alarm, N. Cumberland Rd.
1233 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1237 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1258 – domestic, N. Bellridge Dr.
1332 – 911 welfare check, Edwards R.
1412 – threat, Winchester St.
1416 – domestic, N. Bellridge Dr.
1623 – welfare check, DNR boat launch / Rawsonville
2007 – domestic, Tyler Rd.
2051 – noise complaint, S. Bellridge Dr.
2138 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
2140 – suspicious person/vehicle, Outer Dr.
2143 – threat, Belleville Rd.
2147 – threat, Louisa Dr.
2211 – assist fire dept., Fairbanks St.
2209 – suspicious person/vehicle, Parkwood Dr.
2241 – intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.
2257 – civil matter, Sylvia Dr.
2343 – intrusion alarm, Revere Dr.

Wednesday, Nov. 25:

0026 – shooting, S. I-94 Service Dr.

0109 – 911 welfare check, Dewitt Rd.
0349 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
0358 – intrusion alarm, Marlowe Ave.
0630 – larceny from auto, Prairie Ct.
0644 – larceny from auto, Ironwood Dr.
0757 – larceny from auto, Prairie Ct.
0912 – misc. complaint, Denton Rd.
1028 – larceny from auto, Vine St.
1031 – suspicious person/vehicle, Tyler Rd.
1044 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.

1049 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
1057 – private property impound, Van Born
1155 – found property/child, Country Ln.
1258 – larceny from auto, Prairie Ct.
1428 – property damage accident, Tyler Rd.
1641 – intrusion alarm, Winding Pond Dr.
1700 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1730 – larceny from auto, Ironwood Dr.
1734 – intrusion alarm, Winding Pond Dr.
1738 – suspicious person/vehicle, Borgman Ave.
1852 – suspicious person/vehicle, Borgman Ave.
1856 – noise complaint, Outer Dr.

2000 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
2029 – assist other dept., rest area
2031 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2114 – suspicious person/vehicle, Lauren Ct.
2237 – larceny, Rolan Meadows Dr.
2236 – fight, Belleville Rd.
2256 – disorderly, Maple Dr.

Thursday, Nov. 26:

0026 – property check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0139 – domestic, Van Born Rd.
0305 – domestic, Bog Rd.
0350 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
0354 – road hazard, Haggerty Rd./Tyler Rd.
0924 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
1156 – intrusion alarm, Peninsular Dr.
1508 – noise complaint, Denton Rd.
1657 – vehicle lockout, E. Sadie Ln.
1804 – welfare check, Wildflower Ct.
1814 – disorderly, Capitol Dr.
1912 – intrusion alarm, Harbour Pointe Ct.
1959 – domestic, Ellen Ave.
2206 – fight, Brandi
2351 – property check, Outer Dr.

Friday, Nov. 27:

0131 – trespassing, Meadows Cir.
0304 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
0340 – welfare check, W. Huron River Dr.
0701 – trespassing, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0811 – 911 welfare check, Ecorse Rd.
0906 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
0940 – civil matter, Locust Dr.
1213 – breaking & entering, Outer Dr.
1227 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1239 – family trouble, Locust Dr.
1252 – property damage accident, Berkdale Dr.
1307 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ironwood Dr.
1308 – shooting, Brookside Dr.
1313 – civil matter, Locust Dr.
1410 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1429 – civil matter, Park Estates Dr.
1538 – sexual assault, Riggs Rd.
1559 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd.
1707 – 911 welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1756 – family trouble, Parkwood Dr.
1844 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1843 – assist citizen, Ecorse I-275 ramp S.
1921 – domestic, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1959 – family trouble, Parkwood Dr.
2204 – felony assault, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
2211 – assist fire dept., N. I-94 Service Dr.

Saturday, Nov. 28:

0119 – suspicious person/vehicle, Sumpter Rd.
0424 – suspicious person/vehicle, Savage Rd. / Martinsville Rd.
0621 – mental subject, Old Michigan Rd.
0642 – threat, Park Estates Dr.
0837 – 911 welfare check, Cobblestone Ct.
0933 – suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Rd.
1033 – suspicious person/vehicle, Tyler Rd. / Walden Blvd.
1426 – abandoned auto, E. Sadie Ln.
1653 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
1715 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
2134 – suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Rd.
2147 – assist fire dept., S. Ponderosa Trl.
2318 – intrusion alarm, Edwards Rd.

Also on this week's log are three traffic stops, none of which were on the I-94 or I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Nov. 22:

0429 – assist other dept., Church St.
1401 – sexual assault, Main St.
1527 – misc. complaint, VBPD
2345 – intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.

Monday, Nov. 23:

0156 – intrusion alarm, South St.
1236 – misc. complaints, Main St.

Tuesday, Nov. 24:

0353 – intrusion alarm, South St.
1808 – domestic, Sumpter Rd.
2229 – family trouble, Victorian Ln.

Wednesday, Nov. 25:

1112 – parking complaint, Owen St.
1138 – civil matter, Carmell St.
1343 – follow-up by officer, N. Liberty St.
1706 – welfare check, Menlo Park Dr.
1716 – intrusion alarm, N. Liberty St.

Thursday, Nov. 26:

1614 – welfare check, Church St.

Friday, Nov. 27:

1800 – welfare check, W. Columbia Ave.
1855 – suicidal person, Carmell St.
2019 – assist other dept., Wexford Ave.

Saturday, Nov. 28:

1151 – noise complaint, Main St.
1404 – intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.
1709 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
1815 – civil matter, Main St.

Also on this week's log are 20 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Nov. 22:

0140 – shots fired, Timberlane Dr.
0200 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
0204 – mental health call, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
0231 – follow-up investigation, Timberlane Dr.
0903 – follow-up investigation, 22000 bl. Prince
0949 – fire dept. assist, Brookview Dr.
1009 – alarm, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1125 – animal complaint, 21000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1421 – follow-up investigation, 43000 bl. Willow
1445 – follow-up investigation, 46000 bl. Traskos
1509 – follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln.
1534 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1831 – found property, Sumpter Rd./Wear Rd.
2135 – welfare check, Pecan St.
2238 – suspicious circumstances, 46000 bl. Judd
Monday, Nov. 23:
0703 – breaking & entering, 24000 bl. Martinsville
1428 – alarm, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1437 – larceny, Washington St.
1625 – alarm, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1830 – welfare check, Wyoming St.
1923 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Sumpter Rd. / Harris Rd.

Tuesday, Nov. 24:

0355 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.
0404 – follow-up investigation, out of township
1111 – civil matter, Redwood St.
1201 – breaking & entering, 45000 bl. Clay Rd.
1528 – welfare check, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1714 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Willis Rd.
1737 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1742 – down wires, 43000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1820 – suspicious vehicles, 45000 bl. Dunn Rd.
2045 – welfare check, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.

Wednesday, Nov. 25:

0009 – civil matter, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
0035 – family trouble, Country Club Blvd.
1023 – civil matter, 46000 bl. Claxton Dr.
1123 – civil matter, 5400 bl. Oakville Waltz
1236 – welfare check, Knollwood Dr.
1257 – juvenile complaint, Rustic Ln.
1626 – fraud complaint, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
1800 – suspicious vehicles, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.

Thursday, Nov. 26:

0315 – suspicious person, Sumpter Rd./Willis
0820 – fire dept. assist, Georgia St.
0823 – fire dept. assist, 9300 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0949 – suspicious circumstances, Arizona St.
1213 – fire dept. assist, Creekside Dr.
1516 – welfare check, 44000 bl. Judd Rd.

1558 – shots fired, 49000 bl. Willow Rd.
1750 – 911 hang up, 27000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2127 – 911 hang up, 28000 bl. Elwell Rd.

Friday, Nov. 27:

0706 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
0854 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Harris Rd.
1313 – larceny, 46000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1613 – animal complaint, 17000 bl. Lohr Rd.
2224 – property damage accident, 7300 bl Oakville Waltz Rd.

Saturday, Nov. 28:

1002 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1342 – civil matter, 48000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1411 – welfare check, 45000 bl. Bontekoe
1451 – fire dept. assist, Timberlane Dr.
1511 – assist other agency, Edgewood Dr.
1540 – suspicious circumstances, Washington St.
1558 – suspicious circumstances, 8700 bl.

Rawsonville Rd.

1705 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Harris Rd.
1713 – fire dept. assist, 8400 bl. Oakville Waltz

Also, on this week's log are 66 patrol checks, eight misc. details, and two traffic stops.

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Friday, Dec. 4** – Winter Fest fireworks at 7:30 p.m. shot off from the Denton Road Bridge in Belleville/Van Buren Township. Sponsored by the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce. The fireworks show is expanded to 22 minutes and Santa may make an appearance for the kids.

• **Sunday, Dec. 6** – Each year on Dec. 6, parents around the country pause to remember their beloved children that have died before them. The local Angel of Hope ceremony is at 7 p.m. at Hillside Cemetery and is sponsored by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.

• **Sunday, Dec. 6** – Bugles Across America is at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial at Horizon Park in Belleville. In a brief ceremony, members of the military, alive and dead, are honored. “Taps” is played and Geof Bush and Lori Day sing the National Anthem.

• **Tuesday, Dec. 8** – Forgotten Harvest and Van Buren Township Pop-Up Food Pantry Partnership has changed hours. Today it's from 9 a.m. until noon at the VBT Senior Center. Free food. Pick up for your neighbors.

• **Saturday, Dec. 12** – Photos with Santa at the Belleville Area Museum, noon to 4 p.m. Free; donations welcome. Hosted by the Belleville Central Business Community. Social distancing, temperatures, masks, hand disinfectants will be a part of the experience.

• **Saturday, Dec. 19** – Photos with Santa at the Belleville Area Museum, noon to 4 p.m. Free; donations welcome. Hosted by the Belleville Central Business Community. Social distancing, temperatures, masks, hand disinfectants will be a part of the experience.

• **Saturday, Dec. 19** – Santa will greet families in their vehicles from noon to 2 p.m. during Drive-By Meet Country Claus at St. Paul Lutheran Church on Craig Street in New Boston. The first 150 children will receive a gift bag. They can leave their letters for Santa, as well. The event also will collect donations of hats, gloves, scarves, and socks for those in need in the community.

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Photo courtesy of Mark Davenport

The former crumbling tennis courts at the northeast corner of Denton and Beckley roads in Van Buren Township have been upgraded and will be ready for use in the spring. Davenport Brothers Construction of Belleville was the contractor on the work. At its regular meeting on June 2, held virtually by Zoom, the VBT Board of Trustees voted unanimously for a 10-year ground lease agreement with The Habitat Company LLC (Harbour Club Apartments) for the northeast corner of Beckley and Denton roads for a total lease cost of \$10 over the ten years of the lease. The township was to renovate the present tennis courts there to create four pickleball courts and a parking lot at an estimated cost of \$185,000 and use this as part of its park system. The courts will be maintained by VBT and the grass and parking lot maintained by Harbour Club.

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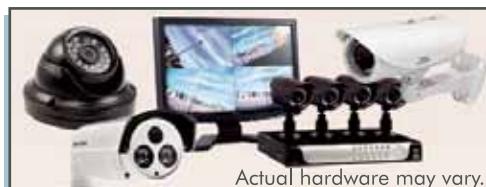


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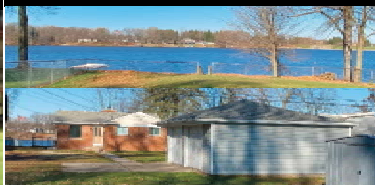
6 ACRES - 2,277 SF + BARN



9392 JUDD, WILLIS
COUNTRY ESTATE featuring 4 Bedrooms, 2 1/2 Bath, Hardwood Floors, Dining Room, Kitchen with Fireplace. On 6.22 Acres with Trex Deck, 3 Car Garage PLUS Pole Barn \$284,900

PENDING

BELLEVILLE LAKE



1033 E HURON RIVER, VAN BUREN
BRICK LAKEFRONT HOME. 3 Bedrooms, 1 1/2 Baths, New Custom Wolf Kitchen, New Custom Bath, Gas Fireplace, Hardwood Floors, Large Basement and New Roof 2013. 2 1/2 Garage, Dock, Decking on More than 1 Acre. \$369,900

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45290 SUNRISE LANE, VAN BUREN
CELEBRATE THE GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD in this 4 Bedroom, 2 1/2 Bath Colonial featuring Large Rooms, Hardwood Floors, 2 Fireplaces, Finished Basement with Wet Bar, Whole House Generator, Inground Pool with Brick Paver Patio and Convenient Location. \$269,500

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41405 TYLER, VAN BUREN
PRIME LOCATION. Corner of Haggerty and Tyler. Opportunity Awaits - 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath Home. Large Lot with Larger 2 1/2 Car Detached Garage. New Carpet, New Bath, New Paint \$155,000

JUST LISTED



324 CHERRY, WYANDOTTE
A Preferred Location 2 Bedroom 1 Bath Home near Everything. Full Basement with Newer 90+ Furnace and Newer High Efficient Water Heater. Purchaser responsible for certificate of occupancy and home sold in as is condition. \$115,000

9 AC - MULTIPLE ZONING



354 W COLUMBIA, BELLEVILLE
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One of the Largest Parcels to be developed in The City of Belleville. .9 Acres with 197 Foot Frontage. There is a Home and Barn that could be renovated. Sold for Value in Land \$100,000

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51046 OLD MICHIGAN, VAN BUREN
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THREE PARCELS A MOST BEAUTIFUL PROPERTY 20+ ACRES WEAR RD\$175,000

TORREY 2.48 AC PERC & SURV \$39,000

VACANT RAWSONVILLE 2.6 AC \$95,000

40700 BEMIS 1 AC VAN BUREN \$35,000

19 AC BREST ROAD TAYLOR \$550,000

COMMERCIAL CORNER OF ECORSE & WAYNE ROMULUS 4.27ACRES \$350,000

22120 SHERWOOD 37.55 AC \$179,000

SAVAGE 1 ACRE SUMPTER TWP \$45,000

25817 SUMPTER 80X529 .97 AC \$20,000

24053 BOHN 3.3 ACRES SUMPTER\$67,000

FOUR 12+ ACRE PARCELS AT \$120,000 EACH CORNER WEAR AND HAGGERTY

VACANT LOUISA "DREAM LOT" \$70,000

GRANT ROMULUS 1.8 ACRES LT IN \$65,000

HAGGERTY 1.5 AC VAN BUREN \$70,000

16265 DIX SOUTHGATE 1.6 AC \$155,000

7 PARCELS ON THE CORNER OF BEMIS AND MARTINSVILLE. PRICED \$50,000 TO \$60,000 EACH. BUILD YOUR DREAM

WILLIS SUMPTER 1.14 ACRES \$45,000

JUDD 10 ACRES SUMPTER TWP \$80,000

10 AC BUNTON YPSILANTI TWP\$155,000

HURON TWP VAC CLARK 1.12 AC \$50,000

HURON TWP VAC CLARK .74 ACRES \$40,000

HURON TWP VAC OTTER 2.94 ACRES \$60,000

HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES \$55,000

HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES \$55,000

41530 SAVAGE 30 AC VAN BUREN \$349,999



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